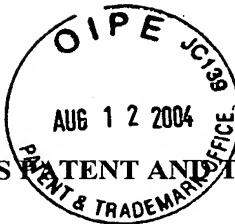


Docket No. 253327US3/ams



IPW

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hitoshi SUZUKI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/849,024

GAU: 1746

FILED: May 20, 2004

EXAMINER:

FOR: PURGE SYSTEM FOR PRODUCT CONTAINER AND INTERFACE SEAL USED IN THE SYSTEM

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

#### REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

#### RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

#### CERTIFICATION

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

#### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

  
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DOCKET NO.: 253327US3/ams



Page 1 of 1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Hitoshi SUZUKI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/849,024

GROUP: 1746

FILED: May 20, 2004

EXAMINER:

FOR: PURGE SYSTEM FOR PRODUCT CONTAINER AND INTERFACE SEAL  
USED IN THE SYSTEM

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

References AC (US 6,164,664), AE (US 5,988,233), AO (JP 2002-510150),  
AP (JP 2002-531934) and AW (JP 8-203993) on Form PTO-1449 are discussed in the  
specification.

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 253327US3	SERIAL NO. 10/849,024	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  <i>O I P E</i> AUG 12 2004 U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		APPLICANT Hitoshi SUZUKI, et al.				
		FILING DATE May 20, 2004		GROUP 1746		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
AA		5,998,233	12/07/1999	N. SUGITANI, et al.		
AB		6,056,026	05/02/2000	W. J. FOSNIGHT, et al.		
AC		6,164,664	12/26/2000	W. J. FOSNIGHT, et al.		
AD		6,319,297	11/20/2001	W. J. FOSNIGHT		
AE		5,988,233	11/23/1999	W. J. FOSNIGHT, et al.		
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						
AL						
AM						
AN						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	NO
AO		2002-510150	04/02/2002	JAPAN (with corr. US 5,988,233)		X
AP		2002-531934	09/24/2002	JAPAN (with cor. WO 00/32472)		X
AQ		WO 00/32472	06/08/2000	WIPO		
AR						
AS						
AT						
AU						
AV						
<b>OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>						
AW	Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 8-203993, August 9, 1996					
AX						
AY						
AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered	
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.						